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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/575,360	04/11/2006	Yasuhiro Shibata	2006_0336A	3275
52349	7590	06/23/2009		
WENDEROTH, LIND & PONACK LLP. 1030 15th Street, N.W. Suite 400 East Washington, DC 20005-1503			EXAMINER	ZIA, SYED
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2431	
			MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
			06/23/2009	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/575,360	Applicant(s) SHIBATA ET AL.
	Examiner SYED ZIA	Art Unit 2431

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If no period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED. (35 U.S.C. § 133).

Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 11 April 2006.

2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.

3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1-16 is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6) Claim(s) 1-16 is/are rejected.

7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a) All b) Some * c) None of:

1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)

Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____

4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____

5) Notice of Informal Patent Application

6) Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

This office action is in response to application filed on April 11, 2006. Claims 1-16 are pending.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

1. Claims 1-16 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Teicher et al. (U.S. Publication No. : 2008/007808).
2. Regarding Claim 1 Teicher teach and describe a content management apparatus which manages a content stored in a portable medium, the apparatus comprising: a content storage unit operable to store a content; a backup unit operable to (i) duplicate a content stored in the first portable medium into the content storage unit and (ii) associate the content with a medium identifier of the first portable medium, and store the associated information into a management

table inside the content management apparatus, in the case where the content stored in the first portable medium is requested to be backed up into the content storage unit; a restore unit operable to (i) duplicate the content duplicated in the content storage unit into a second portable medium and (ii) replace the medium identifier of the first portable medium stored in the management table with a medium identifier of the second portable medium, in the case where the content duplicated in the content storage unit is requested to be restored into the second portable medium; and a management table processing unit operable to transmit, to a reproduction apparatus, reproduction judgment information which is based on the management table, for judging a permission to reproduce the content, the reproduction apparatus attempting to reproduce the content stored in the portable medium ([0014, 0026, 0038, 0044, 0069, 0074-0079, and 0089])

3. Regarding Claim 8 Teicher teach and describe a reproduction apparatus which reproduces a content stored in a portable medium, the apparatus comprising: a request unit operable to request, to a content management apparatus, transmission of reproduction judgment information which is based on a management table, for judging a permission to reproduce the content, the content management apparatus storing the management table in which an identifier associated with the content is stored; a reception unit operable to receive the reproduction judgment information from the content management apparatus; and a reproduction unit operable to reproduce the content only in the case where the reproduction judgment information received by the reception unit indicates a permission for reproducing the content ([0014, 0026, 0038, 0044, 0069, 0074-0079, and 0089]).

4. Regarding Claim 9 Teicher teach and describe a content management method which manages a content stored in a portable medium, the method comprising: (a-i) duplicating a content stored in a first portable medium into a content storage unit and (a-ii) associating the content with a medium identifier of a first portable medium, and storing the associated information into a management table inside the content management apparatus, in the case where the content stored in the first portable medium is requested to be backed up into the content storage unit; (b-i) duplicating the content duplicated in the content storage unit into a second portable medium and (b-ii) replacing the medium identifier of the first portable medium stored in the management table with a medium identifier of the second portable medium, in the case where the content duplicated in the content storage unit is requested to be restored into the second portable medium; and transmitting, to a reproduction apparatus, reproduction judgment information which is based on the management table, for judging a permission to reproduce the content, the reproduction apparatus attempting to reproduce the content stored in the portable medium ([0014, 0026, 0038, 0044, 0069, 0074-0079, and 0089]).

5. Regarding Claim 10 Teicher teach and describe a reproduction method for reproducing a content stored in a portable medium, the method comprising: requesting, to a content management apparatus, transmission of reproduction judgment information which is based on a management table, for judging a permission to reproduce the content, the content management apparatus storing the management table in which an identifier associated with the content is stored; receiving the reproduction judgment information from the content management

apparatus; and reproducing the content only in the case where the received reproduction judgment information indicates a permission to reproduce the content ([0014, 0026, 0038, 0044, 0069, 0074-0079, and 0089]).

6. Regarding Claim 11 Teicher teach and describe a program for managing a content stored in a portable medium, the program causing a computer to execute: (a-i) duplicating a content stored in a first portable medium into a content storage unit and (a-ii) associating the content with a medium identifier of a first portable medium, and storing the associated information into a management table inside the content management apparatus, in the case where the content stored in the first portable medium is requested to be backed up into the content storage unit; (b-i) duplicating the content duplicated in the content storage unit into a second portable medium and (b-ii) replacing the medium identifier of the first portable medium stored in the management table with a medium identifier of the second portable medium, in the case where the content duplicated in the content storage unit is requested to be restored into the second portable medium; and transmitting, to a reproduction apparatus, reproduction judgment information which is based on the management table, for judging a permission to reproduce the content, the reproduction apparatus attempting to reproduce the content stored in the portable medium ([0014, 0026, 0038, 0044, 0069, 0074-0079, and 0089]).

7. Regarding Claim 12 Teicher teach and describe a program for reproducing a content stored in a portable medium, the program causing a computer to execute: requesting, to a content management apparatus, transmission of reproduction judgment information which is based on a

management table, for judging a permission to reproduce the content, the content management apparatus storing the management table in which an identifier associated with the content is stored; receiving the reproduction judgment information from the content management apparatus; and reproducing the content only in the case where the received reproduction judgment information indicates a permission to reproduce the content ([0014, 0026, 0038, 0044, 0069, 0074-0079, and 0089]).

8. Regarding Claim 13 Teicher teach and describe a computer-readable storage medium in which a program for managing a content stored in a portable medium is stored, the program causing a computer to execute: (a-i) duplicating a content stored in a first portable medium into a content storage unit and (a-ii) associating the content with a medium identifier of a first portable medium, and storing the associated information into a management table inside a content management apparatus, in the case where the content stored in the first portable medium is requested to be backed up into the content storage unit; (b-i) duplicating the content duplicated in the content storage unit into a second portable medium and (b-ii) replacing the medium identifier of the first portable medium stored in the management table with a medium identifier of the second portable medium, in the case where the content duplicated in the content storage unit is requested to be restored into the second portable medium; and transmitting, to a reproduction apparatus, reproduction judgment information which is based on the management table, for judging a permission to reproduce the content, the reproduction apparatus attempting to reproduce the content stored in the portable medium ([0014, 0026, 0038, 0044, 0069, 0074-0079, and 0089]).

9. Regarding Claim 14 Teicher teach and describe a computer-readable storage medium in which a program for reproducing a content stored in a portable medium is stored, the program causing a computer to execute: requesting, to a content management apparatus, transmission of reproduction judgment information which is based on a management table, for judging a permission to reproduce the content, the content management apparatus storing the management table in which an identifier associated with the content is stored; receiving the reproduction judgment information from the content management apparatus; and reproducing the content only in the case where the received reproduction judgment information indicates a permission to reproduce the content ([0014, 0026, 0038, 0044, 0069, 0074-0079, and 0089]).

10. Regarding Claim 15 Teicher teach and describe an integrated circuit which manages a content stored in a portable medium, the circuit comprising: a backup unit operable to (i) duplicate a content stored in a first portable medium into a content storage unit and (ii) associate the content with a medium identifier of a first portable medium, and store the associated information into a management table inside the content management apparatus, in the case where the content stored in the first portable medium is requested to be backed up into the content storage unit; a restore unit operable to (i) duplicate the content duplicated in the content storage unit into a second portable medium and (ii) replace the medium identifier of the first portable medium stored in the management table with a medium identifier of the second portable medium, in the case where the content duplicated in the content storage unit is requested to be restored into the second portable medium; and a management table processing unit operable to

transmit, to a reproduction apparatus, reproduction judgment information which is based on the management table, for judging a permission to reproduce the content, the reproduction apparatus attempting to reproduce the content stored in the portable medium ([0014, 0026, 0038, 0044, 0069, 0074-0079, and 0089]).

11. Regarding Claim 16 Teicher teach and describe an integrated circuit which reproduces content stored in a portable medium, the circuit comprising: a request unit operable to request, to a content management apparatus, transmission of reproduction judgment information which is based on a management table, for judging a permission to reproduce the content, the content management apparatus storing the management table in which an identifier associated with the content is stored; a reception unit operable to receive the reproduction judgment information from the content management apparatus; and a reproduction unit operable to reproduce the content only in the case where the reproduction judgment information received by the reception unit indicates a permission for reproducing the content ([0014, 0026, 0038, 0044, 0069, 0074-0079, and 0089]).

12. Claims 2-7, are rejected applied as above in rejecting claim 1. Furthermore, Teicher teach and describe a method for controlling access to storage, wherein:

As per Claim 2, in the case where a medium identifier of the portable medium is stored in the management table, the portable medium storing the content that the reproduction apparatus attempts to reproduce, the management table processing unit transmits, to the reproduction apparatus, the reproduction judgment information indicating a permission for reproducing the

content.

As per Claim 3, the reproduction judgment information is the management table ([0075]).

As per Claim 4, the management table processing unit (i) transmits the management table to the reproduction apparatus, and (ii) stores, into a management table storage unit, transmission completion information indicating that the management table has been transmitted, and only in the case where the transmission completion information is not stored in the management table storage unit, the restore unit duplicates the content duplicated in the content storage unit into the second portable medium (0070-0075]).

As per Claim 5, the transmission completion information is the reproduction apparatus identifier ([0081-0082]).

As per Claim 6, in the case where the reproduction apparatus informs that the management table is not necessary, the management table processing unit deletes the transmission completion information stored in the management table storage unit ([0081-0082]).

As per Claim 7, further comprising a clock showing time, wherein in the case where the reproduction apparatus requests transmission of the management table, the management table processing unit stores, into the management table storage unit, an expiration time of the management table to be transmitted, and in the case where time shown by the clock exceeds the expiration time, the management table processing unit deletes the transmission completion information stored in the management table storage unit ([0081-0082]).

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to SYED ZIA whose telephone number is (571)272-3798. The examiner can normally be reached on 9:00 to 5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ayaz Sheikh can be reached on 571-272-3795. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

sz
June 16, 2009
/Syed Zia/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2431

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